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CANCER
INSTITUTE



FREDERICK CANCER RESEARCH
AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Frederick, Maryland 21702-1201

RECEIVED

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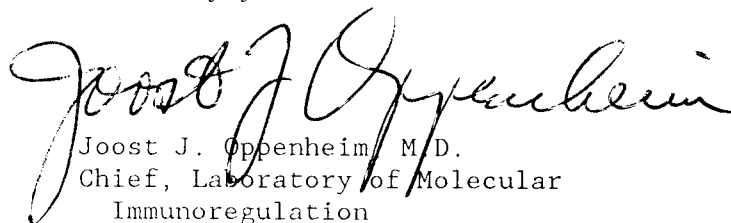
August 11, 1994 IMM EXCUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Dr. Harold E. Varmus
Director
National Institutes of Health
Building 1, Room 114
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. Varmus:

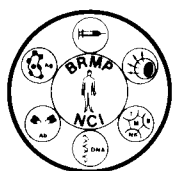
I am adding a note to explain why I am sending you the enclosed somewhat cryptic memorandum. The memo was generated to inform other BRMP, DCT Lab Chiefs concerning the proceedings at a rather disconcerting meeting of NCI-DCT Lab and Branch Chiefs with Drs. Sam Broder and Bruce Chabner. I ordinarily don't like to write memos, but I and some of the other lab chiefs that attended the meeting were very perturbed by some of the policies propounded by Drs. Broder and Chabner. In particular, we were upset to learn that we are all supposed to pursue more developmental research and that in their view basic research should be pursued outside the NIH. Although translational studies and clinical trials are important, they come about only after good basic research and indeed are probably interdependent. Those of us at the BRMP who pursue fundamental studies of host defense mechanisms are more in agreement with your previously stated view that more basic scientific studies are sorely needed to make progress in dealing with cancer. Even though you are probably fully aware of the attitude of the NCI leadership, we thought it appropriate to send you the enclosed memo for your information.

Sincerely yours,



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BIOLOGICAL RESPONSE MODIFIERS PROGRAM

Division of Cancer Treatment